

U.S. Small Business Administration



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Georgia Office

## ***Press Release***

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### **Zaheer Faruqi, President of Aventure Aviation in Peachtree City, Is Georgia's 2009 Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Zaheer Faruqi, President of Aventure Aviation in Peachtree City, was selected Georgia's 2009 Small Business Exporter of the Year. In addition to his SBA statewide award, Faruqi was chosen the Southeast Regional Exporter of the Year just prior to national Small Business Week.

Since he established Aventure Aviation in 2001, Zaheer Faruqi had reached annual sales of over \$5 million by 2008, using a strong customer base of more 50 airline and aircraft operators from across the globe. The company employs a professional staff of 14 people at its headquarters in the Fayette County Foreign Trade Zone near Falcon Field airport in Peachtree City.

The company services range from aircraft parts, components and chemical supplies, to airport ground support equipment and aircraft leasing and asset management. Aventure stocks parts for general aviation planes up to business jets and Boeing 747 aircraft.

About 95 percent of the company's revenues are generated from international sales. Its customer base is also supported by a sales office in Toronto, Canada.

Faruqi's resume shows a life-long passion for aviation. He holds a B.S. Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology and a M.S. Degree in Management from Northrop University in California as well as post-graduate certificates in Airframe and Power plant maintenance.

Zaheer Faruqi was nominated for his award by Charles Boyanton of the International Trade Center in Atlanta, a facility of the Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC).

In 2003, Faruqi opted to take part in the SBDC's *ExportGA* 2003 program which targeted a select group of 10 firms seeking to start or expand their export sales. Adding to its success with this program, Aventure Aviation has used the services of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the State of Georgia's Global Commerce Division.

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